

Faith-Related Programs in Dementia Care, Support and Education

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ACL Alzheimer's and Dementia Programs

Administration on Aging Administration for Community Living

Alzheimer's Disease Supportive Services Program (ADSSP)

Alzheimer's Disease Initiative – Specialized Supportive Services (ADI-SSS)

National Alzheimer's and Dementia Resource Center (NADRC)



Vision for Dementia-Capable Health & LTSS Systems

Such a system meets or exceeds the unique needs of persons with dementia, so that they can say:

Those helping me feel well supported

My choices about care are supported

I know what I can do to help myself and who else can help me

I receive quality services that meet my needs

I had a timely, accurate dementia diagnosis

ACL Alzheimer's and Dementia Programs

Alzheimer's Disease Supportive Services Program (ADSSP)

- ❖ States only
- ❖ Access to a dementia capable home and community-based service system;
- ❖ Access to a sustainable, integrated long-term services and supports system;
- ❖ State system capable of meeting the needs of persons with dementia and their caregivers to remain independent, safe and healthy in their community;
- ❖ Includes evidence-based intervention, direct service requirement and match.

ACL Alzheimer's and Dementia Programs

Alzheimer's Disease Initiative-Specialized Supportive Services (ADI-SSS)

- ❖ Community-Based Organizations only;
- ❖ Fills gaps in dementia-capable long-term services and supports;
- ❖ Target gaps developed on advice of NAPA Council:
 - Provision of effective supportive services to persons living alone with ADRD in the community;
 - Provision of effective care/supportive services to persons living with moderate to severe impairment from ADRD and their caregiver;
 - Improvement of the quality and effectiveness of programs and services dedicated to individuals aging with intellectual and developmental disabilities with ADRD or those at high risk of developing ADRD;
 - Delivery of behavioral symptom management training and expert consultation for family caregivers.
- ❖ Includes evidence-based intervention, direct service requirement and match.

Core Program Components

ADSSP and ADI-SSS

❖ **Comprehensive person-centered services**

- Access to information to aid with informed choices and service management.
- Access to information and entry to long-term service and support programs.

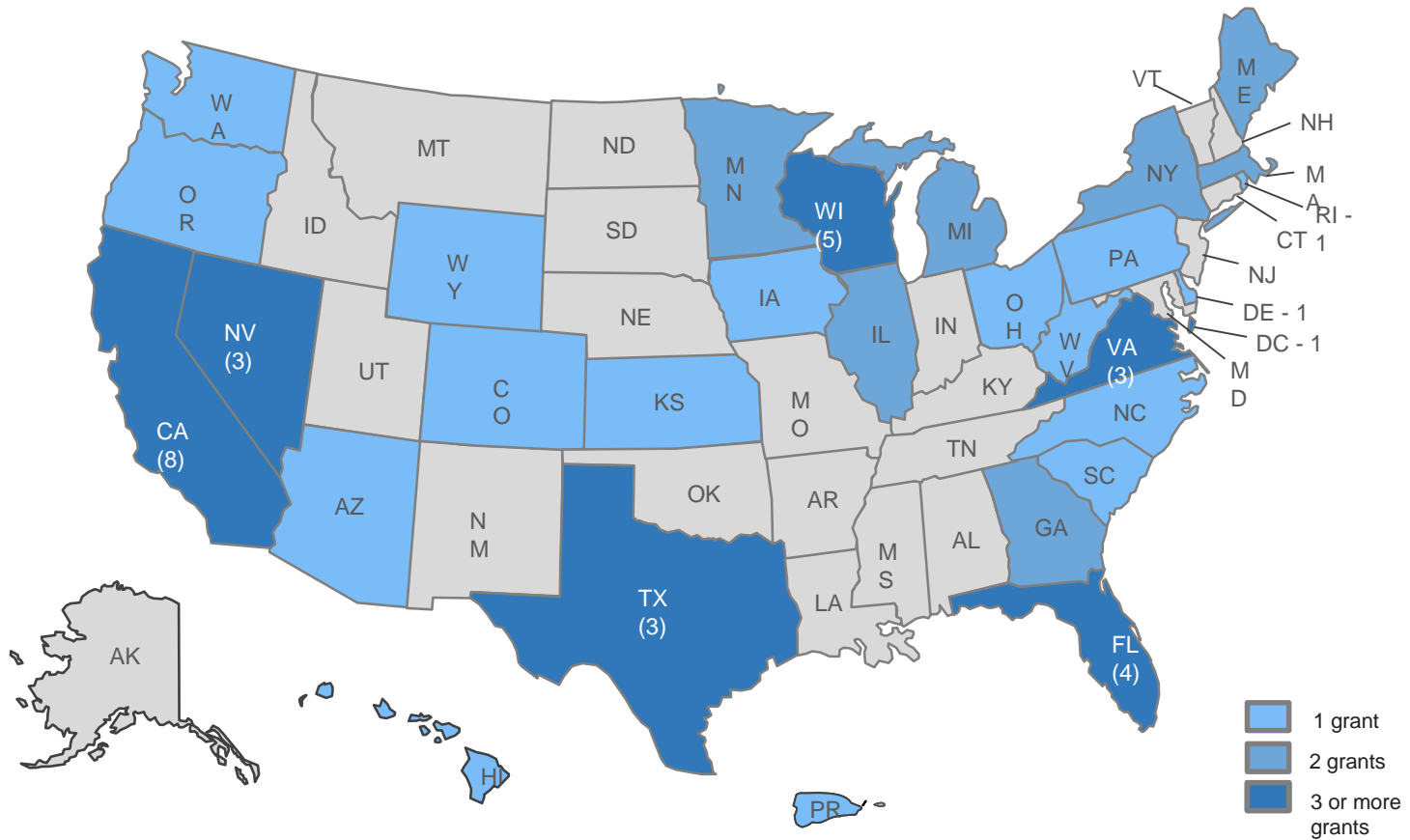
❖ **Single Point of Entry/No Wrong Door access to Dementia Capable Services**

- Dementia Capable Information, Referral and Access
- Dementia Capable care transitions

❖ **Focus on direct services**

- Direct Service requirement linked to \$\$\$ resources
- Evidence-based/Evidence-informed interventions
 - ✓ Designed to assist persons with dementia and their caregivers to maintain health and independence and remain in their community.
- Target underserved populations
 - ✓ Those with the most need;
 - ✓ Limited English proficiency;
 - ✓ Those living in rural areas.

ADSSP and ADI-SSS Programs (as of March 15, 2016)



Presentation Outline

- Importance of religion across the lifespan
- Benefits of religion and spirituality for people with dementia
- Efforts of faith communities to provide services and supports
- Case studies of faith-related programs focused on dementia

This presentation is based on the report, *Faith-related programs in dementia care, support, and education*— <https://nadrc.acl.gov/node/92>

Benefits of religion and spirituality

Religious activities may provide psychosocial benefits:

- For people with dementia, spirituality and religious activity may provide guidance, relief from anxiety, reduced behavioral disturbances, and improved quality of life (Ennis & Kazer, 2013; Vance, 2004)
- For caregivers of people with dementia, religious involvement may reduce caregiver burden (Sun et al., 2009); and one study showed a relationship between caregivers' contact with a church/synagogue and positive emotional states, health, absence of psychiatric symptoms, and positive coping patterns (Burgener, 1999)

Efforts of faith communities to provide services and support

- Dementia care training for clergy is limited, but clergy work to aid people with dementia and their caregivers (Stansbury et al., 2010; Tompkins & Sorrell, 2008)
 - Some activities that may help in maintaining spiritual connections for people with dementia include:
 - Singing familiar songs or participating in familiar prayers
 - Performing simple religious rituals
 - Holding items associated with one's faith (Tompkins & Sorrell, 2008; Vance, 2004)
 - Faith communities may assist people with dementia by providing reminders about activities, transportation, a safe environment, and social support (Stansbury et al., 2010)



Alzheimer's Orange County Interfaith Outreach

CARE
SUPPORT
CURE

1-844-373-4400
www.alzoc.org

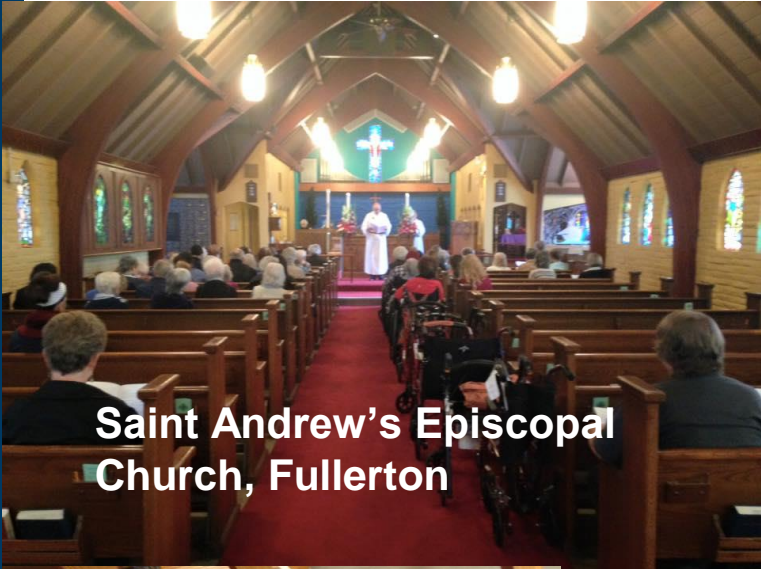
Keys to Success

- Make a commitment to support the activity for at least 2 – 3 years, or don't bother
- Budget for at least 8 hours a week of staff time, choosing the right staff member to support the volunteers
- Offer 1 service per month
- Give meticulous attention to logistics

Keys to Success

- Short services 20 – 30 minutes
- Familiar versions of scriptures, hymns
- Prep and support the minister
- Make things very easy and relaxed – no “tight” scheduling at the church

Interfaith Services



Saint Andrew's Episcopal Church, Fullerton



First Presbyterian Church of Garden Grove



Good Shepherd Presbyterian, Los Alamitos



University Synagogue, Irvine

The Respite Ministry

- ❖ Program 5 Years Old
- ❖ Log 10K volunteer hours a year with 2 part-time employees
- ❖ Fully self supportive
- ❖ Started/ Starting 6 programs in 6 cities with 4 scheduled for 2018
- ❖ Over 500 volunteers trained across state
- ❖ Over 500 families living with dementia served



Questions?

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